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*Utilization of the services of the specialist in X-ray and allied work.*

*1716 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a medical officer of the Government X-ray Institute recently returned from Europe after specialization in Radium X-rays, Electric treatment, etc., at considerable expense to Government during his nearly two years' absence on study leave; and

(b) what special arrangements have been made by the Government to enable the public to avail themselves of the services of this officer, in the special subject?

A.—(a) One of the officers of the Institute recently returned from leave after undergoing special study in X-ray and allied work in England. The period of study leave granted to him was only one year and the expense incurred by Government was the study allowance of 12s. a day granted to him for this period.

(b) As the officer is employed in the X-ray Institute where his services are available to the public, no special arrangements are necessary.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU:—"With reference to answer (a), am I to understand that this medical officer was not paid any voyage expenses?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"He was sent to England for training?"

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU:—"Am I to understand that in addition to the study allowance of 12s. a day, he was not paid any voyage expenses?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"In cases of study leave generally voyage expenses are not given."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU:—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that the surgeons and assistant surgeons when sending their patients to the X-ray Institute, prescribe the treatment they should receive? When there is an expert in charge of the department, why should this be done?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Notice, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"May I ask whether the Radiologist in the General Hospital is a qualified medical officer?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—'Mr. President, may I submit that this question relates to an officer of the X-ray Institute? I do not think that this supplementary question does arise."

The hon. The PRESIDENT:—"This supplementary question does not arise."

*Number and cost of patients admitted in Government hospitals.*

*1717 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased—

(i) to place before the Council a statement showing the number of patients, out-patients and in-patients that availed themselves of the benefits of the several Government hospitals in the City of Madras during the years 1920–21 to 1928–29, with the cost of maintenance in each year as to diet, cooking, clothing, lighting, water-supply and establishment of sisters, nurses, clerks, attenders, stewards, servants and other menials, and

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(ii) to state—

(*a*) the proportion of such expenditure per patient;

(*b*) what are the reasons for the disparity, if any, in the expenditure in respect of each hospital; and

(*c*) how Government propose to standardize the expenditure with a view to efficiency, economy and satisfaction and contentment of the patients?

*A.*—(*i*) & (*ii*) (*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the annual returns of civil hospitals and dispensaries which contain the available information on the subject.

(*ii*) (*b*) & (*c*) The whole question of expenditure in the hospitals in Madras City formed the subject of a detailed investigation by a special officer appointed for the purpose in 1923. On the special officer's recommendation the Government have passed various orders calculated to secure economy without the sacrifice of efficiency.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—"With reference to the answer to (ii) (*b*) and (*c*), may I ask whether these orders will be communicated to the Members of this House?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"The suggestion will be considered."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—"With reference to answer (*a*), may I ask whether the hon. Minister will also inform the House the expenditure that is incurred over the patients according to their nationality?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"My recollection is, if I am not wrong, that the information is available in the Civil Medical Code."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—"With reference to answer (*a*), may I know the pages of the annual returns in which the information is available? I have gone through the annual returns and they do not throw any light on the matter."

The hon. The President :—"The question whether the answer given by the Government is correct or not does not arise."

*Re-construction of the General Hospital at Calicut.*

*1718 Q.—Mr. K. V. Suryanarayana Ayyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government intend giving effect to the proposals for re-constructing and re-organizing the General Hospital at Calicut, in the near future and if so, when;

(*b*) whether the Government have acquired a site for the same and if so, where and at what cost;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the negative, whether the Government have in view any site and if so, where; and whether they are taking any steps to acquire the same; and

(*d*) whether the Government will expedite the matter?